

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A compound objective lens includes a first lens element and a second lens element, the first element including a mirror surface for internally redirecting a radiation beam passing through the first element. The objective lens has a numerical aperture greater than 0.65, and the focal length F_1 of the first element is related to the focal length F of the objective lens by the relation:

$$\frac{F_1}{F} > 2.5$$